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ALLARD PRAISES INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZATION FOR FY 2001 SAYS LEGISLATION WILL STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SECURITY

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO), a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, today praised the committee's unanimous approval of legislation, S. 2507, authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for programs and activities of the U.S. Intelligence Community. The bill authorizes funding for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), the National Security Agency (NSA), the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and other Intelligence Community entities.

"This legislation strengthens our national security while also doing it in a fiscally responsible manner," Allard said. "The committee has placed a high priority on modernizing the National Security Agency (NSA), processing and disseminating intelligence that is being collected by the Intelligence Community and responding to the recent series of security and counterintelligence problems at the State Department."

Allard also said that he was pleased to see the committee agreed with him on a number of his funding priorities and said the legislation should enjoy bi-partisan support.

"I was very pleased to see the committee support many of my priorities such as \$50 million in new funding for commercial imagery and additional funds for infrastructure and organizational changes in NSA" added Allard. "The committee on a bi-partisan basis has developed a list of intelligence priorities that should gain the support of both Congress and the President. Our national security must be remain above partisan or parochial politics."